

**FY 2000 Subsistence Fisheries Project Narrative
Project # 45**

Project Title: Traditional subsistence territory mapping of southeast Alaska Native tribes

Investigator Organization(s): Juneau Forestry Sciences Lab

Geographic Area: Southeast Alaska

Information Type: Traditional Ecological Knowledge

Issue Addressed: For each southeast Alaska tribe, most subsistence use takes place within traditional clan and kwaan territories, and these territories define the areas with the highest cultural importance to each tribe. While tribal members know the territories of their clans and kwaans, this important Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK) has not been well documented, and the specific subsistence uses that take place within tribal territories are not well recorded.

Objectives:

1. Produce accurate, complete descriptions of traditional tribal territories for each tribe in southeast Alaska. Critically review and summarize existing documentation including taped and written archives maintained by the tribes
2. Interview house, clan, and tribal leaders to delineate territories and the uses that take place within territories
3. Produce annotated GIS based reference maps of territories
4. Produce a published reference volume documenting tribal territory that incorporates information collected in this project.

Project Description:

A number of different research, legal hearings, and planning efforts have mapped out traditional subsistence use areas. These include, the benchmark 1946 study by Goldschmidt and Haas, the Judge Hannah hearings conducted in the 1940s in the southern part of the region, subsistence use area mapping done in the 1980s by the Division of Subsistence, Tongass Resource Use Cooperative Survey mapping of community use areas in 1988, subsistence sensitivity to disturbance analysis done by the Div. of Subsistence, recent tribal work on Tlingit place names, a number of Coastal Zone Management plan reports, and other studies. This project will build on these earlier efforts in a new, contemporary examination of traditional territories

This project will proceed community by community in Southeast Alaska. Work will take place cooperatively with local tribal governments who will be contracted for this project. New research will consist of transcribed interviews with house/clan/kwaan leaders and elders, site visits, and development of maps with tribal councils. Tribes will work cooperatively with Juneau Forestry Sciences Lab, university, and other professional staff on this TEK project. Forest Service will provide GIS support for this project.

This is a multi-year project. In the first year work will take place with a maximum of three tribes. First year startup will include development of a methodology to best document and present this important TEK information. The methodology will be developed jointly by the tribes and cooperating researchers. Tribes would be encouraged to provide support for college interns to work on aspects of this project.

Consultations Completed/Potential for Capacity Development: A number of tribes have expressed interest in undertaking this project, including Angoon, Hoonah, Kake, Sitka, and Yakutat. The project has been discussed in meetings of southeast Alaska tribes convened by the Central Council of Tlingit and Haida Tribes of Alaska concerning subsistence information needs and received general support of tribes participating. The project was presented to the Southeast Regional Advisory Council at its Douglas meeting and received the support of the council. The project builds on very successful documentation of Tlingit place names that has taken place in the region in recent years. Some tribes already have experience with documenting this type of TEK through heritage programs or through recent work on use of plants. More thorough consultation with ADF&G Subsistence Division will take place to coordinate this project.

Deliverables/Products: Each community where the project takes place will complete the following set of products:

- 1) A written summary of existing documentation concerning traditional territorial land use.
- 2) Interview transcripts with analytic discussion from field interviews conducted as part of this project.
- 3) GIS and paper maps showing tribal territory and its use, including identification of subsistence use areas by species, incorporating Native place names where possible.
- 4) A finished technical report including the above information suitable for publication. Eventually, community reports will become chapters in a reference volume for the region.

Costs:

The estimated costs for this project are \$40,000 in contract to each tribe where this information collection is undertaken with \$30,000 allocated for JFSL contracts and ADF&G cooperative agreements to provide the technical expertise needed for completion of work in the study communities. Total expenditure for FY00 would be \$160,000. In addition, JFSL will contribute staff time and incidental support for this project. The tribes may contribute in kind or administrative support. Cost projections for subsequent years will need to be revised after the initial year's work. Some cost savings may take place as procedures and data gathering instruments for the information collection are regularized. This three-year projection would cover nine of the region's recognized tribes.

Year	Non-agency	Federal Agency	Federal Local Hire	State Agency	State Local Hire	Total
2000	\$120,000 (\$40,000 to each of three tribes)	\$30,000		\$10,000		\$160,000
2001	\$120,000 (\$40,000 to each of three tribes)	\$30,000		\$10,000		\$160,000
2002	\$120,000 (\$40,000 to each of three tribes)	\$30,000		\$10,000		\$160,000
Total	\$360,000	\$90,000		\$30,000		\$480,000